

Application No. 09/680,119
Amendment "B" dated October 26, 2004
Reply to Office Action mailed October 1, 2004

REMARKS

The final Office Action, mailed October 1, 2004, considered claims 1-40, rejected claims 1-26 and 33-40, and allowed claims 27-32.

By this paper, all of the rejected claims have been cancelled, such that only the allowed claims 27-32 remain pending. Accordingly, inasmuch as there are no outstanding rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for immediate allowance.

It will be appreciated, however, that the cancellation of the claims should not be construed as Applicants acquiescing to the purported teachings or status of the prior art. Cancellations of the rejected claims should also not be construed as any intent to abandon the subject matter of those claims. To the contrary, Applicants intend to pursue the subject matter of the cancelled claims in a continuation. The rejected claims are merely being cancelled in this paper to expedite the issuance of the allowed claims.

In the event that the Examiner finds remaining impediment to a prompt allowance of this application that may be clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated this 26 day of October 2004.

Respectfully submitted,



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